5th Batch of Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra flagged off from Jammu

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The fifth batch of the Baba Budha Amarnath Yatra was ceremonially flagged off on Friday in Jammu. On this occasion, Rajesh Chhibber, Trustee of the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), gave the green signal to the convoy of pilgrims and offered his heartfelt blessings.

He extended good wishes to all the Shiva devotees who have come from across the country and prayed to Baba Chattani for the safety and spiritual fulfillment of their journey. Neeraj Deenoria, National Convenor of the Bajrang Dal, was also present as the Chief Guest for the event.

The yatra, which commenced on 27th July 2025, will contin-

ue until 9th August, culminating on the day of Raksha Bandhan when the sacred Chhari Mubarak will reach the Budha Amarnath Temple in Mandi, Poonch district. This traditional pilgrimage holds immense religious importance and draws devotees

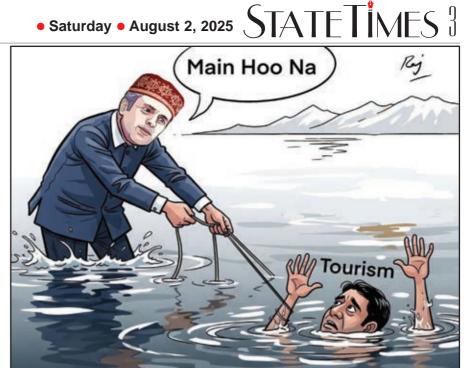
from various parts of India

This year's batch includes a total of 1,342 pilgrims, comprising 917 men, 451 women, and 26 children. Pilgrims have traveled from various regions such as Chittor (119), Saurashtra (410), Jammu (160), Vidarbha (55), Kanpur (451), West Odisha (112),

grims on this sacred journey. and Jijesh Ji Pateri, Regional ing as the Yatra Pramukh, and Rajan Singh is the Provincial Prabhari. Saurashtra, Nanji Bhai Sakh and Lakha Bhai are managing coordination.

Vijay Bajrangi, Provincial

Balopasana Pramukh, is serv-



Day 2 of Viksit Bharat sees 1,000 voices rise against drug abuse

JU organises youth-oriented programmes focusing heritage, skills, drug-free society



STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the second day of the ambitious Viksit Bharat Yuva Connect Programme (VBYCP), Chancellor, Prof Umesh Rai today flagged off a mega rally.

Besides, scholars, faculty, students and others, SP South, Ajay Sharma, SP Traffic Jammu city, Arvind Kotwal, Prof. Anju Bhasin, Dean Academic Affairs, Prof Neelu Rohmetra, Dean Research Studies, and Prof Sangita Gupta. Dean Planning and Development, were present at the flag off cere-

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Umesh Rai, observed that universities are not just places of academic learning but also powerful platforms shaping values. "When students take the lead in campaigns like Nasha Mukt Bharat, it sends a strong message to society," he said and added, "Our collective stand today is not just step in creating awareness and building a culture where students feel supported, informed, and strong enough to say no to drugs.

Prof Rai said that crime and terrorism have a deep connection. "If we want to end crime and terrorism, then we need to become drug-free," said Vice Chancellor, adding "Everyone has to contribute in it. This is an unconventional war. This is a conspiracy to destroy India. If every citizen of India makes this a mission, then I think we will definitely succeed in ending this

Earlier, the day began with holding of a series of vouth-oriented events with focus on heritage, skills and drug free soci-

The main event witnessed participation of scholars, faculty, officers and students from various schools and colleges from across Jammu.

The day began with an inspiring lecture by the well-known youth expert and motivational speaker Swati Basotra, who addressed the students Brigadier the Rajinder Singh

Auditorium. Swati Basotra exhorted students to bring the values of Bharat into their everyday thinking and

conversations Referring to the idea of Chetna (awareness), she reminded the young audience that conscious thought rather than instinct is what makes us

human. Through stories from Indian epics, she highlighted the need for humility, openness, and purpose-driven life and highlighted the greatest gifts of Bharat to the world -- Dharma (righteousness) and Shiksha (education), which repre-

sent truth, kindness, and

fairness. Pankaj Later, Regional Rastogi, Dattopant Director, Thengadi National Board for Workers Education Development (DTNB-Ministry WED). Labour and Employment, GoI shared useful information about government welfare schemes for youth.

explained National Career Service (NCS) portal in making job-searching accessible, and quicker. Drawing on international studies, he emphasized on qualities like analytical thinking, communication and adaptability. These soft skills play a critical role in long-term success hesides the tech nical qualifications, he

He urged the students to build these skills in early stage of their life, as these are important components along with their degrees. He called upon the need for genderinclusive labour policies in achieving the goal of developed India by 2047.

The day also included an elocution competition where students from varinstitutions of ious Jammu shared their ideas about future of India and their role they hope to play in nation building. The students also participated in an essay writing competition topic, 'India@2047:My vision of a developed India empowered by young minds'.

Around 10 schools from Jammu city and 70 coland University teaching departments are participating in various events being organized under Viksit Bharat Youth Connect Programme.

A series of sports and cultural activities were also organized by the Directorate of Sports and Physical Education to reinvigorate the day. The day ended on a strong note with the participation of the faculty, staff and students in 'Nasha Mukt Bharat' Rally in support and commitment

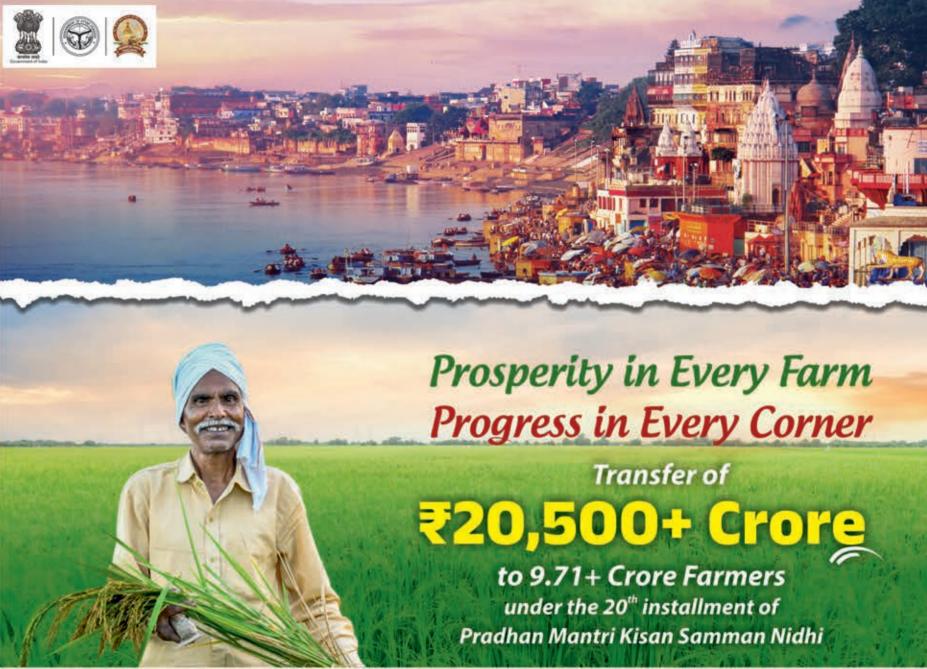
of a drug-free society. To mark the day, the students performed a Nukkad Natak, spreading a message of 'Nasha Mukt Bharat'.



Many organizational leaders and vatra coordinators are guiding and supporting the pil-Among them are Janmeiay, Regional Convenor from Patna

Convenor from Bengaluru.

Soumyaranjan Mishra is overseeing arrangements for pilgrims from West Odisha. Bharat Sahu is leading the contingent from Chhattisgarh. In terms of logistics, a total of 30 vehicles have been arranged for the pilgrimage. These include 3 buses from Akhnoor, 25 buses from Jammu, one car, and one traveler van. The arrangements have been made to ensure the comfort and safe ty of all participants





Inauguration/Foundation Stone Laying of

52 Development Projects worth ₹2,200 Crore for upgrading civic amenities in Kashi

Distribution of assistive aids to 2,000+ Divyangjan and Senior Citizens

Launch of Kashi Sansad Pratiyogita Registration Portal, Website and QR code



Narendra Modi **Prime Minister**

Yogi Adityanath

→ In the august presence of と・

Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh Keshav Prasad Maurya Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Brajesh Pathak Deputy Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Suresh Kumar Khanna Minister, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs,

Uttar Pradesh

Surya Pratap Shahi Minister, Agriculture, Agricultural Education and Agricultural Research,

Dr. Virendra Kumar

Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India

Anil Rajbhar Minister, Labor and Employment, Co-ordination, Uttar Pradesh

Ravindra Jaiswal Minister of State (Independent Charge), Stamp and Court Fee, Registration,

Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu' Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ayush, Food Security and Drug Administration (MOS), Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh and other dignitaries

Major Projects for Inauguration

• Widening and strengthening of Varanasi-Bhadohi road to 4 lanes • Clean drinking water projects in 47 Gram Panchayats under Jal Jeevan Mission

Date: 2nd August, 2025 | Time: 10:00 AM | Venue: Gram Sabha-Banauli (Kalika Dham) Sewapuri, Varanasi

- 2-lane railway overbridge on Mohansarai-Adalpura Road near Hardattpur Railway Station
- Redevelopment of 8 kutcha ghats along the Ganga River through CSR initiatives
 Installation of robotic surgery unit, 2 radiation machines and a

CT scan machine at Homi Bhabha Cancer Hospital and Mahamana Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya Cancer Centre Major Projects for Foundation Stone Laying

 Widening and strengthening of Dalmandi Road
 Government Homeopathic Medical College
 Hospital
 Railway overbridge at Level Crossing No. 22C on Phulpur-Sindhora Road near Khalispur Yard on Varanasi-Zafarabad Rail Section • Road from Kachhwa Road via Kapsethi-Babatpur to Chaubepur · Widening and strengthening of the road from Chhitampur to Rajwadi via Dhaurahara

Kaam Damdaar- Double Engine Sarkar









